Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 20.210 SMP Definitions

## Title 20

#### DEVELOPMENT CODE

## **Division II. Shoreline Master Plan**

20.210 SMP Definitions20.230 SMP Shoreline Policies and Regulations

#### **20.210.010** Definitions.

The Master Program shall be implemented according to the definitions contained in Chapter 20.20 SMC, Chapter 90.58 RCW, and WAC 173-26-020. Where definitions contained in Chapter 20.20 SMC conflict or differ from definitions contained in the Shoreline Management Act, the definitions in the RCW and WAC shall prevail.

**Accretion.** May be either natural or artificial. Natural accretion is the buildup of land, solely by the action of the forces of nature, on a beach by deposition of water- or airborne material. Artificial accretion is a similar buildup of land by reason of an act of man, such as the accretion formed by a groin, breakwater, or beach fill deposited by mechanical means.

**Anadromous Fish.** Fish born in fresh water, which spend most of their lives in the sea and return to fresh water to spawn. Salmon, smelt, shad, striped bass, and sturgeon are common examples.

**Associated Wetlands.** Those wetlands that are in proximity to and either influence, or are influenced by, tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the Shoreline Management Act. Refer to WAC 173-22-030(1).

**Enhancement.** Alteration of an existing resource to improve or increase its characteristics and processes without degrading other existing functions. Enhancements are to be distinguished from resource creation or restoration projects.

**Feasible.** An action, such as a development project, mitigation, or preservation requirement, shall meet all of the following conditions:

- A. The action can be accomplished with technologies and methods that have been used in the past in similar circumstances, or studies or tests have demonstrated in similar circumstances that such approaches are currently available and likely to achieve the intended results;
- B. The action provides a reasonable likelihood of achieving its intended purpose; and
- C. The action does not physically preclude achieving the project's primary intended legal use.

In cases where these guidelines require certain actions unless they are infeasible, the burden of proving infeasibility is on the applicant. In determining an action's infeasibility, the reviewing agency may weigh the action's relative public costs and public benefits, considered in the short- and long-term time frames.

**Flood Control.** Any undertaking for the conveyance, control, and dispersal of floodwaters caused by abnormally high direct precipitation or stream overflow.

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Geotechnical Report or Analysis. A scientific study or evaluation conducted by a qualified expert that includes a description of the ground and surface hydrology and geology, the affected landform and its susceptibility to mass wasting, erosion, and other geologic hazards or processes, conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions, the adequacy of the site to be developed, the impacts of the proposed development, alternative approaches to the proposed development, and measures to mitigate potential site-specific and cumulative geological and hydrological impacts of the proposed development, including the potential adverse impacts to adjacent and down-current properties. Geotechnical reports shall conform to accepted technical standards and must be prepared by qualified professional engineers or geologists who have professional expertise about the regional and local shoreline geology and processes.

**Grading.** The movement or redistribution of the soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, or other material on a site in a manner that alters the natural contour of the land.

**Ground Water Recharge.** A hydrologic process where water moves downward from surface water to ground water. Recharge occurs both naturally (through the water cycle) and anthropologically (i.e., "artificial ground water recharge"), where rainwater and/or reclaimed water is routed to the subsurface.

**Hydric Soil.** Soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper soil horizon(s).

Native Vegetation. Vegetation comprised of plant species, other than noxious weeds, that are indigenous to the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur on the site. Examples include trees such as madrona, Douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big leaf maple, and vine maple; shrubs such as willow, elderberry, salmonberry, and salal; and herbaceous plants such as sword fern, foam flower, and fireweed.

**Native Vegetation Conservation Area.** Vegetated area between the native vegetation setback line and the ordinary high water mark.

**Native Vegetation Setback Line.** Unless otherwise indicated within this Master Program, the line that establishes the limits of all buildings, fencing and impervious surfaces along the shoreline.

**Normal Maintenance.** Usual acts to prevent a decline, lapse, or cessation from a lawfully established condition.

**Normal Repair.** To restore a development to a state comparable to its original condition, including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance, within a reasonable period after decay or partial destruction, except where repair causes substantial adverse effects to shoreline resource or environment. Replacement of a structure or development may be authorized as repair where such replacement is the common method of repair for the type of structure or development and the replacement structure or development is comparable to the original structure or development including but not limited to its size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance

Moved to SMC 20.20.036.

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and the replacement does not cause substantial adverse effects to shoreline resources or environment.

Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). OHWM on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the Department; provided, that in any area where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high water mark adjoining salt water shall be the line of mean higher high tide and the ordinary high water mark adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water.

Restoration. The reestablishment or upgrading of impaired ecological-processes or functions. This may be accomplished through measures including but not limited to revegetation, removal of intrusive structures, toxic materials, or invasive or nonnative plants. Restoration does not imply a requirement for returning the area to pre European settlement conditions.

**Riparian.** The characteristic of relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (as a river) or sometimes of a lake or a tidewater.

Wetland Delineation. A technical procedure performed by a wetland-specialist to determine the area of a wetland, ascertaining the wetland's classification, function, and value, and to define the boundary between a wetland and adjacent uplands. Identification of wetlands and delineation of their boundaries pursuant to this chapter shall be done in accordance with the approved Federal wetland delineation manual and applicable regional supplements. All areas within the City meeting the wetland designation criteria in that procedure are hereby designated critical areas and are subject to the provisions of this program.

Wetlands. Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland-sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment-facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands. (Ord. 668 § 4 (Exh. 3), 2013).

Similar definition in SMC 20.20.044

#### Moved to SMC 20.20.054

Wetland Delineation moved without any proposed edits.

Wetlands combined with existing definition in 20.20.054 and verified for consistency with RCW 36.70A.030(21) as required by the GMA.

# **Chapter 20.230**

# **SMP Shoreline Policies and Regulations**

#### Sections:

Subchapter 1. General Policies and Regulations

# 20.230.030 Environmentally sensitive areas within the shoreline.

#### A. Critical Areas.

# General Policy

- 1. Preserve and protect unique, rare, and fragile natural and manmade features and wildlife habitats.
- 2. Enhance the diversity of aquatic life, wildlife, and habitat within the shoreline.
- 3. Conserve and maintain designated open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational purposes.
- 4. Recognize that the interest and concern of the public are essential to the improvement of the environment, and sponsor and support public information programs.
- 5. The level of public access should be appropriate to the degree of uniqueness or fragility of the geological and biological characteristics of the shoreline (e.g., wetlands, spawning areas).
- 6. Discourage intensive development of shoreline areas that are identified as hazardous or environmentally sensitive.

# General Regulations

- 1. Critical areas in shoreline jurisdiction are regulated by the critical areas regulations (which were adopted on February 27, 2006, by Ordinance No. 398, and as updated by Ordinance No. XXX adopted on September XX, 2015) codified under Chapter 20.80 SMC, which is herein incorporated into this SMP with the exceptions of the following:
  - a. SMC 20.80.030.
  - b. SMC 20.80.040.
  - c. Chapter 20.80 SMC, Subchapter 4, Wetlands.
  - d. SMC 20.80.310.
  - e. SMC 20.80.320.
  - f. SMC 20.80.330.
  - g. SMC 20.80.340.

Insert reference ordinance numbers and verify that correct sections are listed as exceptions after recommended changes are finalized.

Determine whether ordinances that changed CAO between 398 and current project also need to be listed or not.

#### h. SMC 20.80.350.

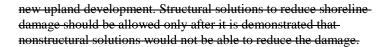
- 2. The provisions of Chapter 20.80 SMC, Critical Areas, must be factored into decisions regarding development within the regulated shoreline and associated critical areas.
- 3. All shoreline uses and activities shall be located, designed, constructed, and managed to protect or at least not adversely affect those natural features which are valuable, fragile, or unique in the region. They should also facilitate the appropriate intensity of human use of such features, including but not limited to:
  - a. Wetlands, including but not limited to marshes, bogs, and swamps;
  - b. Fish and wildlife habitats, including streams and wetlands, nesting areas and migratory routes, spawning areas, and the presence of proposed or listed species;
  - c. Natural or manmade vistas or features;
  - d. Flood hazard areas: and/or
  - e. Geologically hazardous areas, including erosion, landslide, and seismic hazard areas.
- 4. The standards of the City of Shoreline's critical area regulations shall apply within the shoreline jurisdiction, where critical areas are present. If there are any conflicts or unclear distinctions between the Master Program and the City's critical areas regulations, the most restrictive requirements apply as determined by the City.
- B. Floodplain Management. The following policies and regulations must be factored into decisions regarding all flood management planning and development within that portion of the 100-year floodplain that falls within Shoreline's shoreline jurisdiction (within 200 feet of OHWM).

Floodplain management involves actions taken with the primary purpose of preventing or mitigating damage due to flooding.
Floodplain management can involve planning and zoning to control development, either to reduce risks to human life and property, or to prevent development from contributing to the severity of flooding. Floodplain management can also address the design of developments to reduce flood damage and the construction of flood controls, such as dikes, dams, engineered floodways, and bioengineering.

### **Policy**

- 1. Flood management planning should be undertaken in a coordinated manner among affected property owners and public agencies and should consider the entire coastal system. This planning should consider off site impacts such as erosion, accretion, and/or flood damage that might occur if shore protection structures are constructed.
- 2. Nonstructural control solutions are preferred over structural flood control devices, and should be used wherever possible when control devices are needed. Nonstructural controls include such actions as prohibiting or limiting development in areas that are historically flooded or limiting increases in peak flow runoff from

SMC 20.80.360 through 20.80.410 Flood Hazard Areas and SMC 13.12 Floodplain Management were incorporated into the SMP under 20.230.030(A) when it was adopted. The policies and regulations in 20.230.030(B) duplicate the standards already incorporated in (A). Inquiry submitted to DOE to confirm whether this proposed change would be acceptable for the SMP.



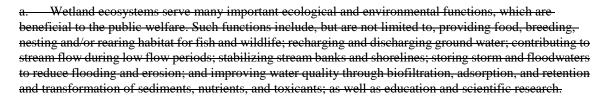
- 3. Substantial stream channel modification, realignment, and straightening should be discouraged as a means of flood protection.
- 4. Where possible, public access should be integrated into the design of publicly financed flood management facilities.
- 5. The City supports the protection and preservation of the aquatic environment and the habitats it provides, and advocates-balancing these interests with the City's intention to ensure protection of life and property from damage caused by flooding.
- 6. Development should avoid potential channel migration impacts.

#### Regulations

- 1. The City shall require and utilize the following information as appropriate during its review of shoreline flood management projects and programs:
  - a. Stream channel hydraulics and floodway characteristics, up and downstream from the project area;
  - b. Existing shoreline stabilization and flood protectionworks within the area;
  - c. Physical, geological, and soil characteristics of the area;
  - d. Biological resources and predicted impact to coastalecology, including fish, vegetation, and animal habitat;
  - e. Predicted impact upon area, shore, and hydraulic-processes, adjacent properties, and shoreline and water uses; and/or
  - f. Analysis of alternative flood protection measures, bothnonstructural and structural.
- 2. The City shall require engineered design of flood protection works where such projects may cause interference with normal geohydraulic processes, off site impacts, or adverse effects to shoreline resources and uses. Nonstructural methods of flood-protection shall be preferred over structural solutions when the relocation of existing shoreline development is not feasible.
- C. Wetlands. Presently, the wetlands within the City's shoreline-jurisdiction have not been delineated and rated using current State-standards. As the wetland category combined with the habitat functions-rating defines the required buffers using current State standards, the-requirements of this section apply to any new development application in the vicinity of an associated wetland. At that time, the wetland and its-buffers would need to be categorized and delineated and the activities-would be regulated using the following standards.

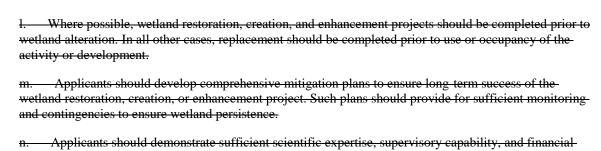
Wetlands regulations to be moved to replace SMC 20.80.310 to 20.80.350, including updates to address 2014 Update to Wetland Rating System and standards added for clarity and predictability.

## 1. Policy.



- b. Wetland areas should be identified according to established identification and delineation procedures and provided appropriate protection consistent with the policies and regulations of this Master Program.
- c. The greatest protection should be provided to wetlands of exceptional resource value, which are defined as those wetlands that include rare, sensitive, or irreplaceable systems such as:
  - i. Documented or potential habitat for an endangered, threatened, or sensitive species;
  - ii. High quality native wetland systems as determined by the Washington State Natural Heritage Program;
  - iii. Significant habitat for fish or aquatic species as determined by the appropriate State resource agency;
  - iv. Diverse wetlands exhibiting a high mixture of wetland classes and subclasses as defined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service classification system;
  - v. Mature forested swamp communities; and/or
  - vi. Sphagnum bogs or fens.
- d. A wetland buffer of adequate width should be maintained between a wetland and the adjacent development to protect the functions and integrity of the wetland.
- e. The width of the established buffer zone should be based upon the functions and sensitivity of the wetland, the characteristics of the existing buffer, and the potential impacts associated with the adjacent land use.
- f. All activities that could potentially affect wetland ecosystems should be controlled both within thewetland and the buffer zone to prevent adverse impacts to the wetland functions.
- g. No wetland alteration should be authorized unless it can be shown that the impact is both unavoidable and necessary, and that resultant impacts are offset through the deliberate restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetlands.
- h. Wetland restoration, creation, and enhancement projects should result in no net loss of wetland acreage and functions. Where feasible, wetland quality should be improved.
- i. Wetlands that are impacted by activities of a temporary nature should be restored immediately upon-project completion.
- j. In kind replacement of functional wetland values is preferred. Where in kind replacement is not feasible or practical due to the characteristics of the existing wetland, substitute ecological resources of equal or greater value should be provided.
- k. On site replacement of wetlands is preferred. Where on site replacement of a wetland is not feasible or practical due to characteristics of the existing location, replacement should occur within the same watershed and in as close proximity to the original wetland as possible.

resources to complete and monitor the mitigation project.



- o. Proposals for restoration, creation, or enhancement should be coordinated with appropriate resource agencies to ensure adequate design and consistency with other regulatory requirements.
- p. Activities should be prevented in wetland buffer zones except where such activities have no adverse impacts on wetland ecosystem functions.
- q. Wetland buffer zones should be retained in their natural condition unless revegetation is necessary to improve or restore the buffer.
- r. Land use should be regulated to avoid adverse effects on wetlands and maintain the functions and values of wetlands throughout Shoreline, and review procedures should be established for development proposals in and adjacent to wetlands.

## 2. Regulations.

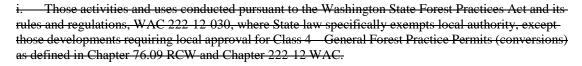
- a. Identification and Delineation. Identification of wetlands and delineation of their boundaries pursuant to this chapter shall be done in accordance with the approved Federal wetland delineation manual and applicable regional supplements. All areas within the City meeting the wetland designation criteria in that procedure are hereby designated critical areas and are subject to the provisions of this chapter. Wetland delineations are valid for five years; after such date the City shall determine whether a revision or additional assessment is necessary.
- b. Rating. Wetlands shall be rated according to the Washington Department of Ecology wetland rating system, as set forth in the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington (Ecology-Publication #04-06-025, or as revised and Wetlands Guidance for Small Cities Western approved by Ecology), which contains the definitions and methods for determining whether the criteria below are met.
  - i. Category I. Category I wetlands are: (1) relatively undisturbed estuarine wetlands larger than one acre; (2) wetlands that are identified by scientists of the Washington Natural Heritage Program/DNR as high quality wetlands; (3) bogs; (4) mature and old-growth forested wetlands larger than one acre; (5) wetlands in undisturbed coastal lagoons; and (6) wetlands that perform many functions well (scoring 70 points or more). These wetlands: (1) represent unique or rare wetland types; (2) are more sensitive to disturbance than most wetlands; (3) are relatively undisturbed and contain ecological attributes that are impossible to replace within a human lifetime; or (4) provide a high level of functions.
  - ii. Category II. Category II wetlands are: (1) estuarine wetlands smaller than one acre, or disturbed estuarine wetlands larger than one acre; (2) interdunal wetlands larger than one acre; (3) disturbed coastal lagoons or (4) wetlands with a moderately high level of functions (scoring between 51 and 69 points).
  - iii. Category III. Category III wetlands are: (1) wetlands with a moderate level of functions (scoring between 30 and 50 points); and (2) interdunal wetlands between 0.1 and one acre. Wetlands scoring between 30 and 50 points generally have been disturbed in some ways and are often less diverse or more isolated from other natural resources in the landscape than Category II wetlands.
  - iv. Category IV. Category IV wetlands have the lowest levels of functions (scoring fewer than 30-points) and are often heavily disturbed. These are wetlands that we should be able to replace, or in some

cases to improve. However, experience has shown that replacement cannot be guaranteed in any specific case. These wetlands may provide some important functions, and should be protected to some degree.

c. **Illegal Modifications.** Wetland rating categories shall not change due to illegal modifications made by the applicant or with the applicant's knowledge.

## 3. Regulated Activities.

- a. For any regulated activity, a critical areas report (see SMC 20.80.110) may be required to support the requested activity.
- b. The following activities are regulated if they occur in a regulated wetland or its buffer:
  - i. The removal, excavation, grading, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, minerals, organic matter, or material of any kind;
  - ii. The dumping of, discharging of, or filling with any material;
  - iii. The draining, flooding, or disturbing of the water level or water table;
  - iv. Pile driving;
  - The placing of obstructions;
  - vi. The construction, reconstruction, demolition, or expansion of any structure;
  - vii. The destruction or alteration of wetland vegetation through clearing, harvesting, shading, intentional burning, or planting of vegetation that would alter the character of a regulated wetland;
  - viii. "Class IV General Forest Practices" under the authority of the "1992 Washington State Forest Practices Act Rules and Regulations," WAC 222-12-030, or as thereafter amended; and/or
  - ix. Activities that result in:
    - (A) A significant change of water temperature;
    - (B) A significant change of physical or chemical characteristics of the sources of water to the wetland;
    - (C) A significant change in the quantity, timing, or duration of the water entering the wetland; and/or
    - (D) The introduction of pollutants.
- c. **Subdivisions.** The subdivision and/or short subdivision of land in wetlands and associated buffers are subject to the following:
  - i. Land that is located wholly within a wetland or its buffer may not be subdivided; and
  - ii. Land that is located partially within a wetland or its buffer may be subdivided; provided, that an accessible and contiguous portion of each new lot is:
    - (A) Located outside of the wetland and its buffer; and
    - (B) Meets the minimum lot size requirements of SMC Table 20.50.020(1).
- d. Activities Allowed in Wetlands. The activities listed below are allowed in wetlands. These activities do not require submission of a critical area report, except where such activities result in a loss of the functions and values of a wetland or wetland buffer. These activities include:



- ii. Conservation or preservation of soil, water, vegetation, fish, shellfish, and/or other wildlife that does not entail changing the structure or functions of the existing wetland.
- iii. The harvesting of wild crops in a manner that is not injurious to natural reproduction of such crops and provided the harvesting does not require tilling of soil, planting of crops, chemical applications, or alteration of the wetland by changing existing topography, water conditions, or water sources.
- iv. Drilling for utilities/utility corridors under a wetland, with entrance/exit portals located completely outside of the wetland buffer; provided, that the drilling does not interrupt the ground water connection to the wetland or percolation of surface water down through the soil column. Specific studies by a hydrologist are necessary to determine whether the ground water connection to the wetland or percolation of surface water down through the soil column will be disturbed.
- v. Enhancement of a wetland through the removal of nonnative invasive plant species. Removal of invasive plant species shall be restricted to hand removal unless permits from the appropriate regulatory agencies have been obtained for approved biological or chemical treatments. All removed plant material shall be taken away from the site and disposed of appropriately. Plants that appear on the Washington-State Noxious Weed Control Board list of noxious weeds must be handled and disposed of according to a noxious weed control plan appropriate to that species. Revegetation with appropriate native species at natural densities is allowed in conjunction with removal of invasive plant species.
- vi. Educational and scientific research activities.
- vii. Normal and routine maintenance and repair of any existing public or private facilities within an existing right of way; provided, that the maintenance or repair does not expand the footprint of the facility or right of way.

# 4. Wetland Buffers.

- a. **Buffer Requirements.** The standard buffer widths in Table 20.230.031 have been established in accordance with the best available science. They are based on the category of wetland and the habitat score as determined by a qualified wetland professional using the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.
  - i. The use of the standard buffer widths requires the implementation of the measures in Table 20.230.032, where applicable, to minimize the impacts of the adjacent land uses.
  - ii. If an applicant chooses not to apply the mitigation measures in Table 20.230.032, then a 33 percent increase in the width of all buffers is required. For example, a 75 foot buffer with the mitigation measures would be a 100 foot buffer without them.
  - iii. The standard buffer widths assume that the buffer is vegetated with a native plant community appropriate for the ecoregion. If the existing buffer is unvegetated, sparsely vegetated, or vegetated with invasive species that do not perform needed functions, the buffer should either be planted to create the appropriate plant community or the buffer should be widened to ensure that adequate functions of the buffer are provided.
  - iv. Additional buffer widths are added to the standard buffer widths. For example, a Category I wetland scoring 32 points for habitat function would require a buffer of 225 feet (75 + 150).

#### Table 20.230.031 Wetland Buffer Requirements for Western Washington

Wetland Category	Standard- Buffer Width	Additional buffer width if wetland scores 21 – 25 habitat points	Additional buffer width if wetland scores 26 – 29 habitat points	Additional buffer width if- wetland scores 30 — 36- habitat points
Category I: Based on total score	75-ft	Add 30 ft	Add 90 ft	Add 150 ft
Category I: Forested	75 ft	Add 30 ft	Add 90 ft	Add 150 ft
Category I: Estuarine	150 ft	NA	NA	NA
Category II: Based on score	75 ft	Add 30 ft	Add 90 ft	Add 150 ft
Category III (all)	60-ft	Add 45 ft	Add 105 ft	NA
Category IV (all)	4 <del>0 ft</del>	NA	NA	NA

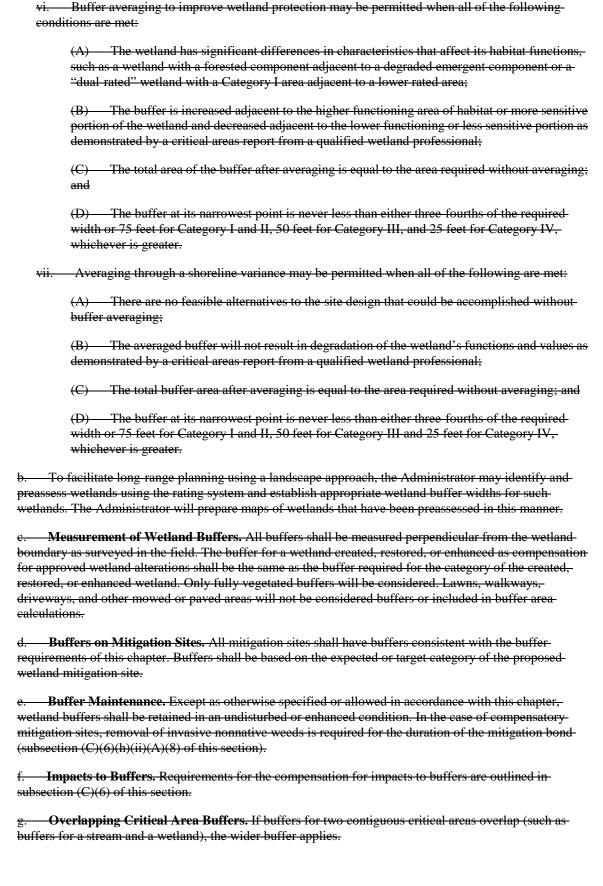
Table 20.230.032 Required measures to minimize impacts to wetlands-

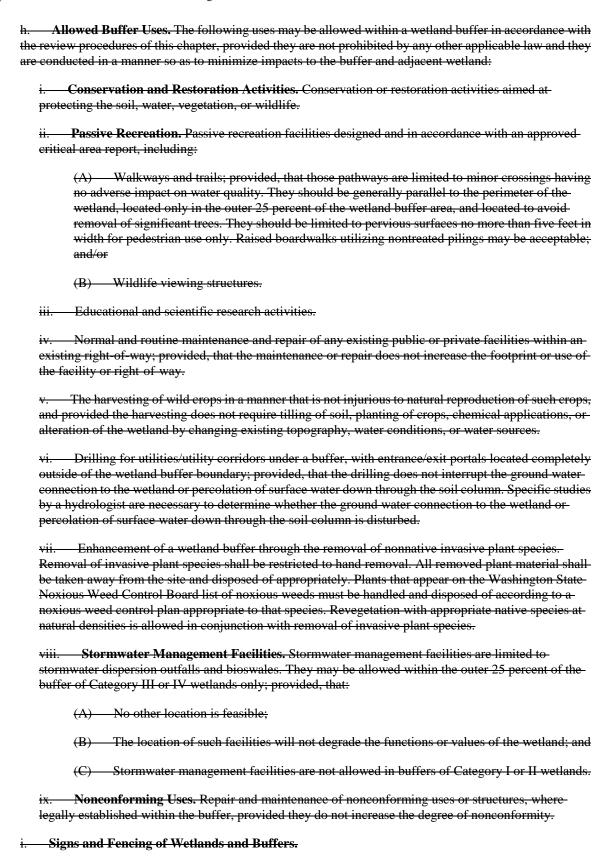
#### (Measures are required, where applicable to a specific proposal)

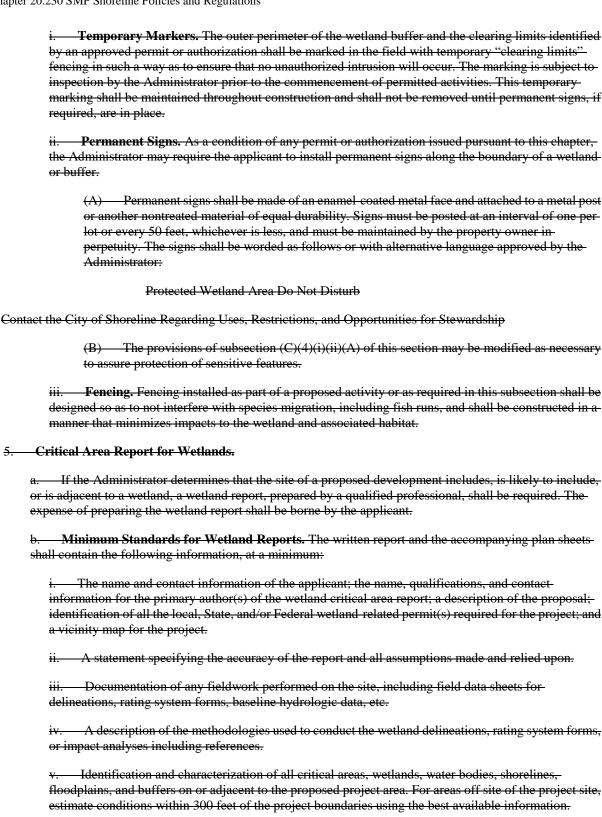
Disturbance	Required Measures to Minimize Impacts	
Lights	Direct lights away from wetland.	
Noise	Locate activity that generates noise away from wetland.  If warranted, enhance existing buffer with native vegetation plantings adjacent to noise source.  For activities that generate relatively continuous, potentially disruptive noise, such as certain heavy industry mining, establish an additional 10 ft heavily vegetated buffer strip immediately adjacent to the outer wetlan buffer.	
Toxic runoff	Route all new, untreated runoff away from wetland while ensuring wetland is not dewatered. Establish covenants limiting use of pesticides within 150 ft of wetland. Apply integrated pest management.	
Stormwater runoff	Retrofit stormwater detention and treatment for roads and existing adjacent development.  Prevent channelized flow from lawns that directly enters the buffer.  Use Low Intensity Development techniques (per PSAT publication on LID techniques).	
Change in water regime	Infiltrate or treat, detain, and disperse into buffer new runoff from impervious surfaces and new lawns.	
Pets and human disturbance	Use privacy fencing OR plant dense vegetation to delineate buffer edge and to discourage disturbance using vegetation appropriate for the ecoregion.  Place wetland and its buffer in a separate tract or protect with a conservation easement.	
Dust	Use best management practices to control dust.	
Disruption of corridors or connections	Maintain connections to off-site areas that are undisturbed. Restore corridors.	

v. Increased Wetland Buffer Area Width. Buffer widths shall be increased on a case by case basis as determined by the Administrator when a larger buffer is necessary to protect wetland functions and values. This determination shall be supported by appropriate documentation showing that it is reasonably related to protection of the functions and values of the wetland. The documentation must-include, but not be limited to, the following criteria:

- (A) The wetland is used by a plant or animal species listed by the Federal government or the State as endangered, threatened, candidate, sensitive, monitored or documented priority species or habitats, or essential or outstanding habitat for those species or has unusual nesting or resting sites such as heron rookeries or raptor nesting trees; or
- (B) The adjacent land is susceptible to severe erosion, and erosion control measures will not effectively prevent adverse wetland impacts; or
- (C) The adjacent land has minimal vegetative cover or slopes greater than 30 percent.

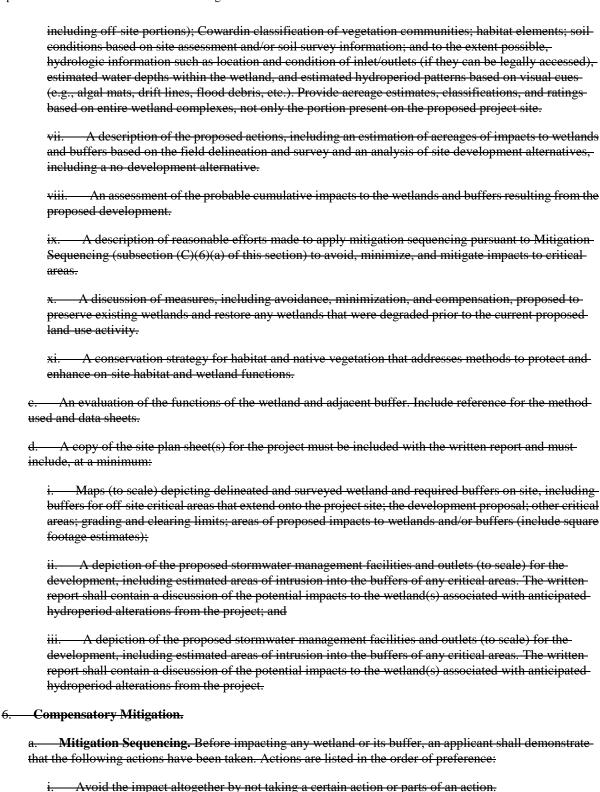






of this section); required buffers; hydrogeomorphic classification; wetland acreage based on a professional survey from the field delineation (acreages for on site portion and entire wetland area

vi. For each wetland identified on site and within 300 feet of the project site provide: the wetland rating, including a description of and score for each function, per wetland ratings (subsection (C)(2)(b)



using appropriate technology, or by taking affirmative steps to avoid or reduce impacts.

iii. Rectify the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.

Minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, by

iv. Reduce or eliminate the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations. Compensate for the impact by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources or environments. vi. Monitor the required compensation and take remedial or corrective measures when necessary. Requirements for Compensatory Mitigation. i. Compensatory mitigation for alterations to wetlands shall be used only for impacts that cannot be avoided or minimized and shall achieve equivalent or greater biologic functions. Compensatory mitigation plans shall be consistent with Wetland Mitigation in Washington State Part 2: Developing Mitigation Plans (Version 1), Ecology Publication No. 06 06 011b, Olympia, WA, March 2006 or as revised. Mitigation ratios shall be consistent with subsection (C)(6)(g) of this section. Mitigation requirements may also be determined using the credit/debit tool described in "Calculating Credits and Debits for Compensatory Mitigation in Wetlands of Western Washington: Operational Draft" (Ecology Publication No. 10 06 011, February 2011, or as revised) consistent with subsection (C)(6)(h) of this section. Compensating for Lost or Affected Functions. Compensatory mitigation shall address the functions affected by the proposed project, with an intention to achieve functional equivalency or improvement of functions. The goal shall be for the compensatory mitigation to provide similar wetland functions as those lost, except when either: The lost wetland provides minimal functions, and the proposed compensatory mitigation action(s) will provide equal or greater functions or will provide functions shown to be limiting within a watershed through a formal Washington State watershed assessment plan or protocol; or Out-of-kind replacement of wetland type or functions will best meet watershed goals formally identified by the City, such as replacement of historically diminished wetland types. Preference of Mitigation Actions. Methods to achieve compensation for wetland functions shall be approached in the following order of preference: Restoration (reestablishment and rehabilitation) of wetlands. Creation (establishment) of wetlands on disturbed upland sites such as those with vegetative cover consisting primarily of nonnative species. This should be attempted only when there is an adequate source of water and it can be shown that the surface and subsurface hydrologic regime is conducive to the wetland community that is anticipated in the design. Enhancement of significantly degraded wetlands in combination with restoration or creation. Enhancement alone will result in a loss of wetland acreage and is less effective at replacing the functions lost. Enhancement should be part of a mitigation package that includes replacing the impacted area and meeting appropriate ratio requirements.

(A) Wetland impacts will not have a significant adverse impact on habitat for listed fish, or other ESA listed species;

iv. Preservation. Preservation of high quality, at risk wetlands as compensation is generally acceptable when done in combination with restoration, creation, or enhancement; provided, that a minimum of 1:1 acreage replacement is provided by reestablishment or creation. Preservation of high quality, at risk wetlands and habitat may be considered as the sole means of compensation for wetlands.

impacts when the following criteria are met:

(C) Mitigation ratios for preservation as the sole means of mitigation shall generally start at 20:1. Specific ratios should depend upon the significance of the preservation project and the quality of the wetland resources lost; and The impact area is small (generally less than one half acre) and/or impacts are occurring to a low functioning system (Category III or IV wetland). All preservation sites shall include buffer areas adequate to protect the habitat and its functionsfrom encroachment and degradation. Type and Location of Compensatory Mitigation. Unless it is demonstrated that a higher level of ecological functioning would result from an alternative approach, compensatory mitigation for ecological functions shall be either in kind and on site, or in kind and within the same stream reach, sub-basin, or drift cell (if estuarine wetlands are impacted). Compensatory mitigation actions shall be conducted within the same sub drainage basin and on the site of the alteration except when all of the following apply: i. There are no reasonable opportunities on site or within the sub-drainage basin (e.g., on site options would require elimination of high functioning upland habitat), or opportunities on site or within the sub drainage basin do not have a high likelihood of success based on a determination of the capacity of the site to compensate for the impacts. Considerations should include: anticipated replacement ratios for wetland mitigation, buffer conditions and proposed widths, available water to maintain anticipated hydrogeomorphic classes of wetlands when restored, proposed flood storage capacity, and potential tomitigate riparian fish and wildlife impacts (such as connectivity); Off-site mitigation has a greater likelihood of providing equal or improved wetland functions than the impacted wetland; and Off site locations shall be in the same sub-drainage basin unless: Established watershed goals for water quality, flood storage or conveyance, habitat, or other wetland functions have been established by the City and strongly justify location of mitigation at another site; or Credits from a State certified wetland mitigation bank are used as compensation, and the use of credits is consistent with the terms of the bank's certification. The design for the compensatory mitigation project needs to be appropriate for its location (i.e., position in the landscape). Therefore, compensatory mitigation should not result in the creation, restoration, or enhancement of an atypical wetland. An atypical wetland refers to a compensationwetland (e.g., created or enhanced) that does not match the type of existing wetland that would be found in the geomorphic setting of the site (i.e., the water source(s) and hydroperiod proposed for the mitigation site are not typical for the geomorphic setting). Likewise, it should not provide exaggerated morphology or require a berm or other engineered structures to hold back water. For example, excavating a permanently inundated pond in an existing seasonally saturated or inundated wetland is one example of an enhancement project that could result in an atypical wetland. Another example would be excavating depressions in an existing wetland on a slope, which would require the construction of berms to hold the water. Timing of Compensatory Mitigation. It is preferred that compensatory mitigation projects be completed prior to activities that will disturb wetlands. At the least, compensatory mitigation shall becompleted immediately following disturbance and prior to use or occupancy of the action or development. Construction of mitigation projects shall be timed to reduce impacts to existing fisheries, wildlife, and flora.

(B) There is no net loss of habitat functions within the watershed or basin;

i. The Administrator may authorize a one time temporary delay in completing construction or installation of the compensatory mitigation when the applicant provides a written explanation from a

qualified wetland professional as to the rationale for the delay. An appropriate rationale would include identification of the environmental conditions that could produce a high probability of failure or significant construction difficulties (e.g., project delay lapses past a fisheries window, or installing plants should be delayed until the dormant season to ensure greater survival of installed materials). The delay-shall not create or perpetuate hazardous conditions or environmental damage or degradation, and the delay shall not be injurious to the health, safety, or general welfare of the public. The request for the temporary delay must include a written justification that documents the environmental constraints that preclude implementation of the compensatory mitigation plan. The justification must be verified and approved by the City.

# g. Wetland Mitigation Ratios.

Category and Type of Wetland	Creation or Reestablishment	Rehabilitation	Enhancement	Preservation
Category I: Bog, Natural Heritage site	Not considered possible	6:1	Case by case	10:1
Category I: Mature forested	6:1	<del>12:1</del>	24:1	24:1
Category I: Based on functions	4:1	8:1	<del>16:1</del>	<del>20:1</del>
Category II	3:1	6:1	<del>12:1</del>	<del>20:1</del>
Category III	<del>2:1</del>	4:1	8:1	<del>15:1</del>
Category IV	<del>1.5:1</del>	3:1	<del>6:1</del>	10:1

h. Compensatory Mitigation Plan. When a project involves wetland and/or buffer impacts, a compensatory mitigation plan prepared by a qualified professional shall be required, meeting the following minimum standards:

Ratios for rehabilitation and enhancement may be reduced when combined with 1:1 replacement through creation or reestablishment. See Table 1a or 1b, Wetland Mitigation in Washington State – Part 1: Agency-Policies and Guidance – Version 1 (Ecology Publication No. 06-06-011a, Olympia, WA, March 2006 or as revised).

- i. Wetland Critical Area Report. A critical area report for wetlands must accompany or be included in the compensatory mitigation plan and include the minimum parameters described in the "Minimum-Standards for Wetland Reports" section of this chapter.
- ii. Compensatory Mitigation Report. The report must include a written report and plan sheets that must contain, at a minimum, the elements listed below. Full guidance can be found in Wetland-Mitigation in Washington State—Part 2: Developing Mitigation Plans (Version 1) (Ecology Publication No. 06-06-011b, Olympia, WA, March 2006 or as revised).
  - (A) The written report must contain, at a minimum:
    - (1) The name and contact information of the applicant; the name, qualifications, and contact information for the primary author(s) of the compensatory mitigation report; a description of the proposal; a summary of the impacts and proposed compensation concept; identification of all the local, State, and/or Federal wetland related permit(s) required for the project; and a vicinity map for the project;
    - (2) Description of how the project design has been modified to avoid, minimize, or reduce adverse impacts to wetlands;
    - (3) Description of the existing wetland and buffer areas proposed to be impacted. Include acreage (or square footage), water regime, vegetation, soils, landscape position, surrounding land uses, and functions. Also describe impacts in terms of acreage by Cowardin-

- classification, hydrogeomorphic classification, and wetland rating, based on wetland ratings (subsection (C)(2)(b) of this section);
- (4) Description of the compensatory mitigation site, including location and rationale for selection. Include an assessment of existing conditions: acreage (or square footage) of wetlands and uplands, water regime, sources of water, vegetation, soils, landscape position, surrounding land uses, and functions. Estimate future conditions in this location if the compensation actions are not undertaken (i.e., how would this site progress through natural succession?);
- (5) A description of the proposed actions for compensation of wetland and upland areas-affected by the project. Include overall goals of the proposed mitigation, including a description of the targeted functions, hydrogeomorphic classification, and categories of wetlands:
- (6) A description of the proposed mitigation construction activities and timing of activities:
- (7) A discussion of ongoing management practices that will protect wetlands after the project site has been developed, including proposed monitoring and maintenance programs (for remaining wetlands and compensatory mitigation wetlands);
- (8) A bond estimate for the entire compensatory mitigation project, including the following elements: site preparation, plant materials, construction materials, installation oversight, maintenance twice per year for up to five years, annual monitoring field work and reporting, and contingency actions for a maximum of the total required number of years for monitoring; and
- (9) Proof of establishment of notice on title for the wetlands and buffers on the project site, including the compensatory mitigation areas.
- (B) The scaled plan sheets for the compensatory mitigation must contain, at a minimum:
  - (1) Surveyed edges of the existing wetland and buffers, proposed areas of wetland and/or buffer impacts, location of proposed wetland and/or buffer compensation actions;
  - (2) Existing topography, ground proofed, at two foot contour intervals in the zone of the proposed compensation actions if any grading activity is proposed to create the compensation area(s). Also existing cross sections of on site wetland areas that are proposed to be impacted, and cross section(s) (estimated one foot intervals) for the proposed areas of wetland or buffer compensation;
  - (3) Surface and subsurface hydrologic conditions, including an analysis of existing and proposed hydrologic regimes for enhanced, created, or restored compensatory mitigation areas. Also, illustrations of how data for existing hydrologic conditions were used to determine the estimates of future hydrologic conditions;
  - (4) Conditions expected from the proposed actions on site, including future hydrogeomorphic types, vegetation community types by dominant species (wetland and upland), and future water regimes;
  - (5) Required wetland buffers for existing wetlands and proposed compensation areas. Also, identify any zones where buffers are proposed to be reduced or enlarged outside of the standards identified in this chapter;
- (6) A plant schedule for the compensation area, including all species by proposed community type and water regime, size and type of plant material to be installed, spacing of plants, typical clustering patterns, total number of each species by community type, timing of installation; and

Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 20.230 SMP Shoreline Policies and Regulations

(7) Performance standards (measurable standards reflective of years post in	<del>istallation) for</del>
upland and wetland communities, monitoring schedule, and maintenance schedule	dule and actions by
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i. **Buffer Mitigation Ratios.** Impacts to buffers shall be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio. Compensatory buffer mitigation shall replace those buffer functions lost from development. (Ord. 668 § 4 (Exh. 3), 2013).